

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 7-10 were presented for examination and were pending in this application. With this amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended. On the basis of the following remarks, consideration of this application and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

The examiner objected to paragraph 14 the specification and to claims 7-10. Applicant has amended the specification and claims as required by the examiner.

The examiner also objected to the drawings as not showing all features of the claims. The amendment to claim 1, which no longer positively recites electronic components, moots this objection.

Claims 1-4 were rejected as indefinite because of the use of “far,” “relatively,” “hotter,” and “desired.” Claim 1 has been amended to omit these terms and to recite the claimed features in the manner they are recited in claim 7, which has not been rejected as indefinite.

Claims 1-4 and 7-10 were rejected as anticipated or made obvious by U.S. Patent No. 6,034,870 to Osborn et al. Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims, as amended, are patentable over Osborn. In particular, the claims have been amended to recite that “the air outlets are located at least on opposing sides of the [computer] chassis,” as shown in FIG. 1 of the present application. The cited references, including Osborn, lack this claimed feature.

As an air flow cools the components in a computer, the air will typically heat up until it exits the computer through air outlets in the chassis. The air near the air outlets will thus tend to be hotter than the air farther from the air outlets, thereby creating a heated zone near the air outlets. In the claimed invention, the air outlets are located closer to the low-heat electronic

components than to the high-heat electric components. This avoids or reduces warming of the air by the low-heat electronic components before that air is used to cool the high-heat electronic components. Cooler air over the high-heat electronic components improves the cooling of those components. In this sense, it is undesirable to locate low-heat electronic components away from the air outlets because these components may heat the air before the air passes over the high-heat electronic components. Accordingly, it may be preferred to locate as many of the low-heat electronic components near the air outlets as possible.

But motherboard designs may constrain the location of the electronic components thereon, so the low-heat electronic components cannot always be placed along one side of the chassis where the air outlets may be. By including air outlets on opposing sides of the chassis, the claimed invention allows more of the low-heat electronic components to be located near the air outlets. Allowing the heated air to exit along more of the perimeter of the chassis thus increases the efficiency of the cooling of the high-heat electronic components.

The cited references do not have air outlets on at least opposing sides of a computer chassis, as claimed. Osborn, for example, includes air outlets only along a rear face of the computer chassis. In this way, Osborn's low-heat electrical components, if placed anywhere other than the rear of the motherboard, will heat up the air before the air is used to cool the high-heat electrical components. This is undesirable because it reduces the cooling efficiency of the high-heat electrical components, such as the CPU.

Accordingly, the claims, as amended herein, are patentable over the references of record.

Based on the foregoing, the application is in condition for allowance of all claims, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the examiner believes for any reason direct

contact would help advance the prosecution of this case to allowance, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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